

be put into action by some motive power, and such a strength as is able to support the required exertion. This power in the horse is muscle, with bone, which it is able to lift with ease and freedom as a lever; with the flesh, or muscle, sufficient to fulfil its purpose of connecting the different parts of the body, and hold them together; but not in an abundance, to form a load for the muscular power. Such are our ideas, which are always freely expressed on every proper occasion. We think general opinion is now tending this way; it has long thus prevailed all over North Britain, where horses are more usefully adapted for active purposes. Our pleasure was very considerable to see the Suffolk horses improved in this respect; and, with the foundation that exists, something like perfection may be expected.

#### SHORTHORNS.

The shorthorn bull of this year was the property of Lord Berners, of Leicestershire; one of the new winners in this department. The animal was coloured in a strawberry roan, with large white spots; and possessed a very superior merit—at least in the show of this year. The head was rather large on the side view, but in front the width betwixt the eyes was very becoming, and the muzzle well tapered. The shoulder was rather narrow on the top, with a rise on the commencement of the back; the flat top width betwixt the hock bones was very superior, and the root of the tale was well set, though rather high. The thighs were deep and wide, as is usual with the shorthorn breed, and fleshy nearly to the hock. The flank was hollow and lean where joining the hind leg, and the short ribs were widely home. The animal was very respectable though only a second-rate bull of that celebrated breed where the foremost specimens appear. The horn and tail showed a hardy constitution, these extreme parts denoting a proper degree of refinement of organization as much as any others. This animal was purchased at a long figure by Messrs. James Ganley and Sons, of Usher Quay, Dublin, for the Hon. Mr. Harmon, of the County of Longford, Ireland.

The second shorthorn prize, which took the first at the late Plymouth meeting, was a less animal than the first, and with nearly equal qualities. The colour was lighter with more white in the roan. The head was faulty in a protuberant face, which is as objectionable as the concave formation. A large hollow appeared behind the shoulder, which makes a lean girth, as often happens with that breed. The inferiority was most evident by the first prize, and no mistake could be perceived in the judgment awarded.

The first prize of Class 2 went to a purely white animal of most regular symmetry of carcass, but a head much deformed by a protuberant face, and a high osseous cap of the forehead. The horns were long and irregularly set, one being lower than the other; the ear long and agile, and the eye quick. The posterior width showed well, and the touch of the skin felt very soft and gelatinous. The back was straight, and flat to a nicety; the top of the shoulder round and well covered. White animals may be delicate in con-

stitution, but the skin is generally fine and the touch silky. With the exception of the head, this animal was not equalled in the show yard.

The second prize was won by a young bull of a beautiful strawberry-roan colour, and the most exquisite symmetry. Accident had broken off one horn, but that pendicle in the one remaining showed a clean growth and a proper bulk, which always denotes a vigour of constitution. This animal showed properties of a very superior degree, and, along with the first prize of this class, very much excelled the two prizes of Class 1.

The first prize cow was a very superior specimen of the breed, and equal to any animal that has ever appeared at the shows of the Society. The horns were not handsome, being confined close to the head downwards; but the thin neck showed a milker, and the body the fattening properties. The width of the hock bones was very rare.

The second prize well supported the reputation of Mr. Booth. The cow-like head, horn, and neck, have probably never been surpassed, along with a carcass that exhibited every propensity for the butcher. There is a probability that the latter purpose is more answered than the dairy in both these specimens, but in general merit they are unrivalled.

The two prizes for heifers went to Mr. Booth, who showed two animals perhaps never surpassed by any beasts of the kind. It would be difficult to distinguish any difference in the respective merits, except that the first prize, being lower on the leg, showed more width and a greater weight of carcass for its height. The second would please the dairy farmer, and the first the grazier and butcher.

The first prize of yearling heifers lighted upon a very handsome animal, nearly white in colour, with roan in the fore-quarters. This beast formed one of the best specimens of the show, possessing every quality that could be wished at its early age; the head being very cow-like, and the body straight, cylindrical, deep, and wide.

The winner of the second prize was wholly white in colour, with much symmetry of carcass and general appearance. These two animals fully upheld the character of their breed.

With the exception of Mr. Booth's animals, the Shorthorn cattle were shown with an inferiority, though with some fair specimens among the unsuccessful competitors. An over-refinement may attend Mr. Booth's beasts, which may be pushed beyond fecundity and the milking property; but they have always been famous for carrying much flesh on a small quantity of bone. The show of this year has been largely indebted to him; as well as to Mr. H. Smith, who exhibited a very neat animal of Sir Charles Tempest's herd, she had most of the points distinguishing a well-bred shorthorn, and deservedly took the first prize for cows.

The bull of the foremost prize was an animal of much merit, and quite equal to the first place of a second-rate quality. The stature was low, with a broad compact body, showing much hardihood with a rightly appearance of activity. These properties go far to compensate the wants of the very superior qualities.